



United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Investigative and Enforcement Services

Reference Number: VA07032-AC,
VA07035-AC
Issuance Date: December 13, 2011
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December 13, 2011

New London Ruritan Club
12411 E. Lynchburg Salem Turnpike
Forest, VA 24551

OFFICIAL WARNING

Re: Reference number VA07032-AC, VA07035-AC

Dear Sir or Madam:

Why You Are Receiving This Letter

We believe that you violated the Horse Protection Act (15 U.S.C. § 1821 et seq.) (HPA), as described in the attached Official Warning. Our agency, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), is responsible for enforcing the HPA, and other agriculture laws that help prevent the spread of animal and plant pests and diseases, and ensure the welfare of animals.

After providing you with an opportunity for a hearing, we may impose civil penalties of up to \$2,200, or other sanctions, for each violation described in this Official Warning. Although we generally pursue penalties for this type of violation(s), we have decided not to pursue penalties in this instance so long as you comply, in the future, with laws that APHIS enforces.

Consequences Of Continuing Non-Compliance

If you violate laws that APHIS enforces in the future, we may pursue criminal penalties, or we may pursue civil penalties for the violations described in this Official Warning, in addition to any penalties we may pursue for any future violations.

What To Do If You Have Questions

If you have any questions concerning this Official Warning, contact Deborah Press at (301) 734-4969 or call our main office number at (301) 734-8684.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE



CASE NUMBER:
VA07032-AC, VA07035-AC

VIOLATOR:
New London Ruritan Club

ADDRESS (Street, City, State, ZIP Code):
12411 E. Lynchburg Salem
Turnpike
Forest, VA 24551

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has evidence that on or about the date(s) listed below, you or your organization committed the following violation(s) of Federal Regulations:

Date of Violation: July 21, 2007

18 U.S.C. § 1824(3) Unlawful Acts

Management of the New London Ruritan Club Horse Show, which did not appoint and retain a person in accordance with section 1823(c) of this title, failed to disqualify from being shown or exhibited two horses which were sore in violation of the scar rule.

Date of Violation: July 21, 2007

9 C.F.R. § 11.20(a) Responsibilities and Liabilities of Management

The management of any horse show, horse exhibition, or horse sale or auction which does not appoint and retain a DQP shall be responsible for identifying all horses that are sore or otherwise in violation of the Act or regulations, and shall disqualify or disallow any horses which are sore or otherwise in violation of the Act or regulations from participating or competing in any horse show, horse exhibition, horse-sale, or horse auctions.

Date of Violation: July 21, 2007

9 C.F.R. § 11.3 Scar Rule

"The scar rule applies to all horses born on or after October 1, 1975. Horses subject to this rule that do not meet the...scar rule criteria shall be considered to be "sore" and are subject to all prohibitions of...the Act."

Continued on next page.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) created federal regulations to ensure the welfare of animals and help prevent the spread of animal and plant pests and diseases. Since violations of the regulations can have serious and costly impacts that are detrimental to the public interest, APHIS is providing you with an Official Warning for the violation(s) described above. Any further violation of these federal regulations may result in the assessment of a civil penalty, criminal prosecution, or other sanctions. If you have any questions concerning this Official Warning or violation(s), please contact the APHIS official listed in this notice.

APHIS OFFICIAL (Name):
Robert J. Huttenlocker

OFFICE ADDRESS:
4700 River Road, Unit 85
Riverdale, MD 20737

APHIS OFFICIAL (Title):
Director, Investigative and Enforcement Services

DATE ISSUED: 12/13/2011	TELEPHONE NUMBER: (301) 734-8684
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Final Processing: Ember Smootz

Production Notes: **[Production Notes]**

T02A Warning Letter (12-11)

New London Ruritan Club
12411 E. Lynchburg Salem Turnpike
Forest, VA 24551